

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): An apparatus for transporting a storage medium from a holder to a storage device, said apparatus comprising:

a base;

a carriage driven by a first driving force, said carriage being movable relative to said base between said holder and said storage device;

a picker provided on said carriage and driven by a second driving force, said picker selectively loading and unloading said storage medium;

a first driving device generating said first driving force;

a second driving device provided on said base and generating said second driving force;
and

a transmission mechanism transmitting said second driving force from said second driving device to said picker allowing movement of said carriage,

wherein said picker has a gripper which includes first and second parts which are linked to each other rotatably around an axis,

wherein said carriage has cams which make said gripper open or close in response to the movement of said picker,

wherein said first parts move pivotally about said axis and opens for hooking notches of said storage medium by said cams.

2. (original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmission mechanism comprises a rotary shaft and a coupling device, and said coupling device is provided on said carriage and transmits torque from said rotary shaft to said picker allowing relative movement between said rotary shaft and said picker along a longitudinal axis of said rotary shaft.

3. (original): An apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said rotary shaft has a convex portion in cross section, said coupling device has a concave portion in cross section, and said convex portion of said rotary shaft fits said concave portion of said coupling device.

4. (original): An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said rotary shaft has a polygonal shape in cross section.

5. (original): An apparatus according to claim 4, wherein said rotary shaft has a rectangular shape in cross section.

6. - 7. (canceled)

8. (original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said transmission mechanism comprises a belt and a gear, said belt allows relative movement between said second driving device and said picker, and said gear is provided on said carriage and transmits driving force from said belt to said picker.

9. (original): An apparatus according to claim 8, wherein said belt is elastic.

10. (original): An apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said belt comprises a spring.

11. (original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said picker comprises a gripper assembly grasping said storage medium.

12. (original): An apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said picker comprises a support structure translating, said gripper assembly in a direction toward and away from said holder.

13. (original): An apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said gripper assembly comprises an arm and a guide guiding said arm, said arm selectively assumes an open position

and a closed position, said guide has a curved portion such that said arm moves from said closed position to said open position as said arm approaches said holder and said arm moves from said open position to said closed position as said arm retreats from said holder.

14. (original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said holder is a library.

15. (original): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said storage medium is housed in a cartridge.

16. (currently amended): A storage medium library system comprising:

one or more storage holders which holds storage media;

a base;

a carriage driven by first driving force, said carriage being movable relative to said base between said holder and a storage device;

a picker provided on said carriage and driven by a driving force, said picker selectively loading and unloading a storage medium;

a driving device provided on said base, for generating said driving force; and

a transmission mechanism transmitting said driving force from said driving device to said picker allowing movement of said carriage,

wherein said picker has a gripper which includes first and second parts which are linked to each other rotatably around an axis,

wherein said carriage has cams which make said gripper open or close in response to the movement of said picker,

wherein said first parts move pivotally about said axis and opens for hooking notches of said storage medium by said cams.

17. (currently amended): An apparatus for transporting a storage medium from a holder to a storage device, said apparatus comprising:

a base means;

a carriage means for being movable relative to said base means between said holder and said storage device;

a picker means provided on said carriage and driven by a driving force, for selectively loading and unloading said storage medium; and

a transmission means for transmitting said driving force from said driving means to said picker means allowing movement of said carriage means,

wherein said picker means has a gripper means which includes first and second parts which are linked to each other rotatably around an axis,

wherein said carriage means has a cam means which makes said gripper means open or close in response to the movement of said picker means,

wherein said first parts move pivotally about said axis and opens for hooking notches of said storage medium by said cams.
